

## **Committee Notes – Joint Meeting**

### **Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID**

**April 11, 2013**

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Attendance: HED Committee Members Present: John Tronson, Chairperson; Charlie Colletta, Carol Massie, Dan Chismire, Chad Lewis, and Thaddeus Smith. Not Present: Derrick Malec. SVBID Committee Members Present: Anthony Bell, Fabio Conti, and Elizabeth McDonald. Not Present: Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson; Katie Seymour. Liaisons: Steve Seyler, Joe Salazar, Mike Harkins, and Bill Farrar, Andrews International; Captain Beatrice Girmala, Officer Irv Isabella, Officer Danny Pesqueira, LAPD; Deputy Del Moore, Lt. Sergio Aloma, LASD; Not Present: Neighborhood Prosecutor and Council District 13. Staff: Kerry Morrison, and Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. Guests: None.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Hollywood Property Owners Alliance Committee Chair John Tronson at 10:07 a.m.

II. Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

III. Meeting Notes: The committee approved the meeting notes from their March 14, 2013 meeting.

IV. Reports

A. Report from Andrews International

1. Monthly Activity Report: Steve Seyler reported that officers have noticed an increase in mentally ill and violent individuals in the area. Seyler said that officers have done their best in reaching out to these individuals and trying to connect those who are interested with available services. BID Security is also continuing to work with chronically homeless individuals who have been in the area for quite some time. Arrests are down for the year, however Seyler did inform the group that calls received have continued to increase and are up by almost 300, a 27.5% increase from this time last year. In closing his report, Seyler showed the committee a video from the Hollywood and Highland McDonald's security camera which showed a violent incident where a man randomly punched and beat a young adult who was leaving the store at 6:45 a.m. LAPD and BID Security both responded to the scene, and LAPD detectives utilized the video to search for the suspect.

2. Report from Briefing Visit/Ride Along: Kerry Morrison reported that she had gone on a ride along with one of the BID's long time sergeants, Sgt. Patton. Morrison also said that during her ride along she too had noticed the increase in mentally ill homeless individuals on the Boulevard. Morrison said that comments raised by stakeholders in recent months suggest that people feel less safe. She noticed some changes herself and has seen evidence of drug dealing re-appearing. To complicate the situation, in her recent meeting with homeless service providers, Morrison shared with the committee that several agencies have pulled back their outreach efforts. Morrison is trying to put together an initiative to obtain additional funding for outreach, and other programs which will continue Hollywood's effort to move our homeless neighbors into permanent supportive services.

B. Report from LAPD: Captain Girmala reported that major crime statistics, including Part I crime and property crime are continuing their downward trend in the area. The Captain also said the LAPD had recently conducted an outreach effort in the Cahuenga corridor where homeless individuals they came in contact with were put in touch with PATH. Out of the 12 individuals contacted, three were placed in PATH, eight of the twelve were from out of state, and the remaining were from the LA County area. The Captain said she believes the increase in our homeless population is due to the feeding programs and easy sleeping accommodations in the neighborhood. Captain Girmala also mentioned that both LAPD Narcotics and Gangs' Units are working the area constantly and have several potential trouble locations under surveillance. Lastly, the LAPD will be setting up an active shooter training on May 8, which she has invited BID Security to attend.

C. Report from LA Sheriff's Department: Lt. Aloma reported that Hollywood's Red Line stops have seen a decrease in crime. The Sheriffs are continuing to have challenges with homeless individuals misusing the system. Fare evasion task forces have been set up and will continue, along with deputies riding and patrolling the trains. Lt. Aloma also informed the Committee that Metro is looking to lock all station gates in the Hollywood corridor starting this June, or early July.

D. Report from Neighborhood Prosecutor: Not in attendance due to court obligations.

#### V. New Business

##### A. Nighttime Activity in the BID

1. Continued Discussion on BID Patrol Schedule and Purpose: Mariani reported that the BID was in week 11 of their 13 week late night deployment schedule. The committee was given a report from Seyler that showed the activities for the past 10 weeks. Mariani mentioned that for the most part things have been very quiet and that BID officers have not yet had anything to report to LAPD. The Captain noticed in the report that there were numerous occasions where LAPD did not respond to BID Security's radio checks at the beginning and/or close of their shift. The Captain said she would look into this matter and discuss it with her officers. Captain Girmala also reported that there has been a decrease in nighttime crime, and it was possible it could be attributed to the Las Palmas Security team and the BID patrol's later hours. Charlie Colletta asked if the staff could possibly put together a working group of committee members to evaluate the program at its conclusion and determine if and how it should continue. John Tronson, Charlie Colletta, Chad Lewis, Elizabeth McDonald and Captain Girmala all agreed to be a part of the group if needed.

2. LAPD Camera Monitoring Update: Captain Girmala said she spoke with Commander Kato and that there were still some concerns with the BID paying for on duty officers. That being said, the Captain said that the LAPD could provide off duty officers to man the cameras, but would need the BID to cover their costs. Morrison said the BID would be willing to do that, as a motion was already passed at the HPOA board's October 18, 2012 meeting to approve up to \$25,000 for the monitoring of the LAPD cameras. Captain Girmala said a request would have to be made formally on BID letterhead. Morrison said a letter could be provided by the end of the week. Mariani also asked the Captain how the Valley LAPD station could use volunteers to monitor the camera, as mentioned in a previous 'Daily News' article. The Captain said she believed the program was part of the VST, a special volunteer program LAPD has in certain areas.

##### B. Security RFP 2012

1. Contract Negotiation Update: Mariani informed the Committee that the Sunset board had signed their Andrews contract at their April Board meeting. The question formerly raised regarding insurance coverage has been discussed, and it was determined that Andrews was providing per incident coverage. The staff hopes to have a revised final draft before the HPOA at their meeting next week for approval.

C. Noise Mitigation: Mariani said that BID staff had met with representatives from the El Capitan, LAPD, City Attorney's office, and BID security to discuss the consistent noise issues plaguing the western end of the Boulevard near the theatre. Due to first amendment rights, the City Attorney's office said the situation may be a difficult one to handle unless cases can be built up. Representatives from the Jimmy Kimmel show agreed to try and put some evidence together and meet with Mr. Quintero to try and see what solutions are available.

D. El Centro Stakeholder Meeting: The staff recently held a meeting of El Centro/Selma area stakeholders at the request of one of their neighbors. Mariani reported that the meeting was very successful as

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the neighbors were able to discuss their future vision for the area. A follow up meeting will be arranged by one of the property owners in the area.

E. Hollywood/Cahuenga Intersection: Both Morrison and Mariani had met with the owner of the Security Pacific Bank Building and LAPD to discuss continuing issues with the alley and corner. Mariani said that the owner is requesting the bus benches in front of his property be removed. Seeing as these benches are difficult to install, the request will be placed before the HPOA board for their approval at their April board meeting.

VI. Old Business

A. Homeless Outreach Update:

1. Homeless Bill of Rights: No news to report.

B. Community Impact Team: Mariani said that the staff had recently met with Angela Motta and the Hollywood Chamber to discuss the proposed city motion which would mandate tour companies to promote tours from inside their leased space. Motta said the motion should be going before City Council for approval within the next couple of weeks, however there has not been any decision yet as to how the motion will be enforced. The Hollywood Chamber and BID staff has asked the Council office to please try and develop an enforcement plan with the motion so that both can be promoted together, and operators in the area will be well informed.

C. Parking Update

1. Valet Ordinance Status: The ordinance was recently passed in Public Safety Committee on March 27. It is expected to go before the Council for approval within the next couple of weeks.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 10 a.m. in Suite 802 of the Taft Building (1680 Vine St., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Hollywood Property Owners Alliance Committee Chair John Tronson at 11:15 a.m.